Theft of Petrol From Igatpuri Dock Yards

4740. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the theft of petrol from igatpuri dock yards;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Governmcnt against the culprits;

(c) whether the IOC has filed a claim against Indian Railways about theft of petrol at Igatpuri station;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken to recover the claim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). Pilferages had been reported to have taken place from MS/HSD Tank Wagons kept in the "Holdingline" at Igatpuri Station which is located about 2 kms. away from the main station. The matter has been handed over by the vigilance Department of the Central Railway to the CBI for further investigation.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir,. IOC has filed a claim amounting to Rs. 17,11,163/- against Indian Railways on account of the incident at Igatpuri Station. This is being persued.

Alleged Irregularity in Sale of Soft Coke

4741. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities have been detected by the Government in the sale of soft cok meant for domestic use at a fixed price; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NAYAMAGOUDA):(a) and (b). The Ministry of Coal alocates soft coke to States/Union Territories on half-yearly basis for further distribution. The subsidiaries of Coal India. Ltd. supply soft coke as per sponsorships isued by State Governments/Union Trritories at the rates fired by Government/Unon Territoris at the rates fixed by Governent of India.The State Governments/Union Territories are empowered to fix retail prices of soft coke in their jurisdiction. Ministry of Coal is not aware of any complaints regarding higher prices being charged by retailers over and above the prices fixed by State Governments/Union Territories. Such complaints, if any, have to be looked into by respective State Governments/Union Territories.

Salem Steel Project

4742. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Salem Steel Project has secured further steckel mills from Japanese sources;

(b) whether there have been number of other foreign bidders;

(c) whether Salem Steel Project propose to update the second hand project; and